

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (original): A loosening-proof nut comprising a
2 nut body having a central female thread with a nominal
3 diameter d , the nut body also having two or more slits
4 formed such as to be symmetrical with respect to the axis
5 of the nut, radially penetrate the female thread from the
6 outer periphery of the nut and be located at an axial
7 position on the upper side of the axial center position
8 of the nut body, the slits defining push parts, which are
9 bent downward by causing plastic deformation.

1 Claim 2 (original): The loosening-proof nut according to
2 claim 1, wherein the slits consist of a first and a
3 second slit symmetrical with respect to the axis of the
4 nut, the push parts consist of a first and a second push
5 part defined in an upper part of the nut body by the
6 first and second slit, and the distance b between the
7 bottoms of the first and second slit is in a range of
8 0.15 to 0.8 times the nominal diameter d .

1 Claim 3 (original): The loosening-proof nut according to
2 claim 2, wherein the height h of the nut body is at least
3 0.5 times the nominal diameter d , the bottom width of the
4 first and second slits is 0.05 to 0.2 times the nominal
5 diameter d , the thickness a of the first and second push
6 parts is 0.1 to 0.3 times the nominal diameter d .

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): The loosening-proof nut
2 according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~, wherein the width s of the tip
3 of the first and second push part is in a range of 0 to

4 0.5 times the bottom width g of the first and second
5 slits.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): The loosening-proof nut
2 according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 2 to 4, wherein the
3 first and second slits are at an angle between 70 and 90
4 degrees with respect to the axis of the nut body and are
5 formed substantially symmetrically with respect to the
6 axis of the female screw.

1 Claim 6 (currently amended): The loosening-proof nut
2 according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 2 to 6, wherein the
3 upper part of the nut body inclusive of the first and
4 second push parts is circular in plan view shape.

1 Claim 7 (original): A nut having an internal female
2 thread, a first opening from which a male thread to be
3 screwed is inserted, and a second opening, from which the
4 inserted male thread gets out; wherein the nut comprises
5 at least a pair of slits formed at an axial position
6 closer to the second opening and such as to be
7 symmetrical with respect to the axis of the nut and to
8 radially partly penetrate the female thread from the
9 outer periphery of the nut, a first axial part defined on
10 the first opening side and a second axial part defined on
11 the second opening side bounded by the pair of slits, and
12 the female thread parts of the first and second axial
13 parts have the same shape parameter, and the direction of
14 the surface, in which the female thread part in the
15 second axial part is formed, is deviated from the axial
16 direction.

1 Claim 8 (original): A nut having an internal female
2 thread, a first opening from which a male thread to be
3 screwed is inserted, and a second opening, from which the
4 inserted male thread gets out; wherein the nut comprises
5 at least a pair of slits formed at an axial position
6 closer to the second opening and such as to be
7 symmetrical with respect to the axis of the nut and to
8 radially partly penetrate the female thread from the
9 outer periphery of the nut, a first axial part defined on
10 the first opening side and a second axial part defined on
11 the second opening side bounded by the pair of slits, and
12 the female thread parts of the first and second axial
13 parts have the same shape parameter, and the direction of
14 the surface, in which the female thread part in the
15 second axial part is formed, is deviated from the axial
16 direction by causing plastic deformation of the second
17 axial part.

1 Claim 9 (original): A nut having an internal female
2 thread, a first opening from which a male thread to be
3 screwed is inserted, and a second opening, from which the
4 inserted male thread gets out; wherein the nut comprises
5 at least a pair of slits formed at an axial position
6 closer to the second opening and such as to be
7 symmetrical with respect to the axis of the nut and to
8 radially partly penetrate the female thread from the
9 outer periphery of the nut, a first axial part defined on
10 the first opening side and a second axial part defined on
11 the second opening side bounded by the pair of slits, and
12 the female thread parts of the first and second axial
13 parts have the same shape parameter, and the width of the

14 slit is increased in the axial direction by causing
15 plastic deformation of the second axial part.

1 Claim 10 (original): A nut having an internal female
2 thread, a first opening from which a male thread to be
3 screwed is inserted, and a second opening, from which the
4 inserted male thread gets out; wherein the nut comprises
5 at least a pair of slits formed at an axial position
6 closer to the second opening and such as to be
7 symmetrical with respect to the axis of the nut and to
8 radially partly penetrate the female thread from the
9 outer periphery of the nut, a first axial part defined on
10 the first opening side and a second axial part defined on
11 the second opening side bounded by the pair of slits, the
12 female thread parts of the first and second axial parts
13 have the same shape parameter, and the direction of the
14 surface, in which the female thread part in the second
15 axial part is formed, is deviated from the axial
16 direction, and the maximum outer diameter of the second
17 axial part is smaller than the minimum outer diameter of
18 the first axial part.

1 Claim 11 (original): A nut having an internal female
2 thread, a first opening from which a male thread to be
3 screwed is inserted, and a second opening, from which the
4 inserted male thread gets out; wherein the nut comprises
5 at least a pair of slits formed at an axial position
6 closer to the second opening and such as to be
7 symmetrical with respect to the axis of the nut and to
8 radially partly penetrate the female thread from the
9 outer periphery of the nut, a first axial part defined on
10 the first opening side and a second axial part defined on

11 the second opening bounded by the pair of slits, and the
12 female thread parts of the first and second axial parts
13 have the same shape parameter, the second axial part
14 being plastically deformed to increase the width of the
15 slits toward the axis of the nut; and the maximum outer
16 diameter of the second axial part is set to be smaller
17 than the minimum outer diameter of the first axial part.

1 Claim 12 (currently amended): The nut according to ~~one~~
2 ~~of claims claim 7 to 11~~, wherein the outer periphery of
3 the second axial part is circular in shape.

1 Claim 13 (currently amended): The nut according to ~~one~~
2 ~~of claims claim 7 to 11~~, wherein the first and second
3 axial part have substantially the same shape.

1 Claim 14 (currently amended): The nut according to ~~one~~
2 ~~of claims claim 7 to 11~~, wherein the female thread part
3 formation surface direction of the second axial part is
4 set to be outward from the axis of the nut.

1 Claim 15 (currently amended): The nut according to ~~one~~
2 ~~of claims claim 7 to 11~~, wherein as the pair of slits a
3 plurality of slit pairs are formed at predetermined
4 positions uniformly subtending the circumference.

1 Claim 16 (currently amended): The nut according to ~~one~~
2 ~~of claims claim 7 to 11~~, wherein the maximum outer
3 diameter of the second axial part is smaller than the
4 minimum outer diameter of the first axial part.

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1 Claim 17 (currently amended): The nut according to ~~one~~
2 ~~of claims~~ claim 7 to 11, wherein the outer periphery of
3 the second axial part is circular in shape.